



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE  
STATE HOUSE STATION 41  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



ROLAND D. MARTIN  
COMMISSIONER

September 25, 2006

Dear Trapper:

Enclosed is the annual mailing the Department makes to all licensed trappers. It includes beaver rules, the beaver/muskrat trapping policy, and an up-to-date list of fur tagging stations. In addition, the Department uses this mailing to inform trappers of trapping related issues that are of concern to the Department. Please note the several changes in the beaver and muskrat season this year, which are outlined below.

A brief summary of the opening and closing dates for the 2006-2007 trapping season follows. **The new beaver season will run from November 1 through April 30 in WMDs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; from November 1 through April 15 in WMDs 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, and 28; from December 1 through March 31 for WMDs 7, 8, 13, 14, and 17; December 1 through February 28 for WMDs 12, 15, 16, 23, 25, 26, 27, and 29; December 15 through February 28 for WMDs 20, 21, 22, and 24.** The general trapping season begins October 29 and ends December 31. Special trapping seasons exist for muskrat, coyote, and fox. The early muskrat season starts Sunday, October 22 and lasts until Saturday, October 28. During this period muskrats can only be trapped in WMDs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, and 11. The special fox and coyote trapping season runs from Sunday, October 15 through Saturday, October 28 and is open statewide.

Hunting seasons on furbearers include a skunk and opossum season that runs from October 16 through December 31; a raccoon season, that starts October 1 and continues through December 31; a fox season, that lasts from October 16 until February 28; and a bobcat season, that runs from December 1 through February 14.

Beginning with the 2006 –2007 beaver season, the Department, for enforcement purposes, has modified its definition of a “beaver dam,” such that the term beaver dam does not include the remains of an inactive or breached beaver dam that is in disrepair and is no longer being maintained by beaver. Also, new for 2006 –2007 beaver season: any muskrat trapping conducted after March 31 in those areas open to beaver trapping is restricted to the use of killer-type traps and colony traps, and all traps must be set so as to remain completely under water at all times.

In addition to the fur tagging stations listed on the last pages of this booklet, furs may be tagged at the Department's regional offices by game wardens and wildlife biologists. You can help with the tagging process by keeping track of where (town) and when (month) each fur was taken, and by having frozen furs ready for tagging following instructions on pages 45 and 46 of the 2006 State of Maine Hunting & Trapping Laws and Rules booklet. Remember, all skins must be tagged within 10 days of the end of the season for that species and all bobcat taken by hunting must be tagged within 72 hours. If you have difficulty getting fur tagged, call the nearest regional office between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday to make arrangements. Remember that only Department personnel, not tagging stations, can tag otter and bobcat.

If you have questions regarding any of these regulations or the furbearer program in general, please feel free to contact your regional wildlife biologist or Wally Jakubas, the Mammal Group Leader, in Bangor. Telephone numbers for regional offices, other Departmental offices, and Advisory Council members are on page 2 of the 2006 regulations booklet. I wish you a good trapping year.

Sincerely,

Roland D. Martin  
Commissioner



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

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ROLAND D. MARTIN  
COMMISSIONER

September 6, 2006

Dear Trapper:

As in years past, the timing of the printing of the summary law booklet for hunting and trapping does not allow us to include the new beaver season dates in that booklet. Therefore, please carefully look over the opening and closing dates of the beaver season on the next page to determine the season dates for the Wildlife Management Districts (WMDs) you are interested in trapping in. This year, we have adjusted the season in Downeast Maine at the request of the Maine Trappers Association.

Many of you have heard that on April 18, the Animal Protection Institute filed a 60-day notice of their intent to sue Maine and Minnesota over the incidental take of wolves, lynx, and bald eagles by trappers. Their claim stated that federally threatened or endangered species were occasionally being "taken" (i.e., harassed, harmed, pursued, hunted, shot, wounded, killed, trapped, captured, or collected) by trappers, and that these takings were a violation of the Endangered Species Act. The lawsuit asked Maine to stop trapping in any area of the state where trappers may incidentally catch these species. This lawsuit has the potential to shut down most upland trapping in Maine, and trapping for some aquatic furbearers (e.g., muskrat, and otter). In response, Maine applied to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for an incidental take permit, which if accepted, should provide the legal foundation for trappers to incidentally take lynx or bald eagles. At this time, the Department has not been sued.

We appreciate the willingness of the trapping community to report lynx and bald eagles when they are incidentally caught in traps. Hopefully, your past cooperation will improve MDIFW's prospects of obtaining an incidental take permit from the USFWS. This year, I have included a number of reminders in this booklet of things trappers can do to avoid incidentally catching lynx or bald eagles. Please look over these suggestions and consider trying them out on your trap line. Through your continued cooperation we will have the best chance of maintaining our trapping tradition in Maine.

Finally, I hope to see many of you this fall and winter as we begin the discussion of what to do about the declining fisher harvest in Maine. Please see the following pages for more details on fisher trapping trends in Maine.

Sincerely,

Wally Jakubas  
Mammal Group Leader

## 2006-2007 Beaver Season & Changes

Table 1. 2006-2007 beaver season, with last year's season in italics.

WMD's	Season Dates
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 .....	November 1 - April 30
7, 8, 13, 14, 17 .....	December 1 - March 31
9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 28 .....	November 1 - April 15
(Last Year: 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 28, 29.....)	<i>November 1 - March 31</i> )
12, 15, 16, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29 .....	December 1 - February 28
(Last Year: 12, 15, 16, 23, 25, 26, 27, 30.....)	<i>December 1 - February 28</i> )
20, 21, 22, 24 .....	December 15 - February 28

## 2005-2006 Trapping Highlights

Last year, the general trapping season began October 30 and ended December 31. Special trapping seasons exist for muskrat, coyote, and fox. The early muskrat season started October 23 and lasted until October 29. In Maine, trappers can keep otter that are incidentally harvested while trapping beaver, after the otter season closes December 31. Muskrats can be trapped in any WMD where beaver trapping is open, even after the official muskrat season closes.

Table 2. Harvest of furbearing animals from Maine's pelt-tagging records -- Fall 2000 to Spring 2006. Pelts may not be tagged when nuisance animals (e.g., coyote and beaver) are taken, thus pelt-tagging records may under-represent the harvest of some species.

Species	2005- 2006	2004- 2005	2003- 2004	2002- 2003	2001- 2002	2000- 2001
Beaver	11,094	10,324	8,222	7,809	11,757	9,803
Bobcat	344	377	273	331	269	308
Coyote	2,077	2,168	2,459	2,287	2,741	1,977
Fisher	1,810	2,173	2,526	2,630	3,117	2,028
Red Fox	1,067	1,412	1,535	1,469	2,056	1,272
Grey Fox	67	125	196	172	164	89
Marten	3,873	2,255	5,088	2,908	5,529	1,832
Mink	1,108	1,222	904	935	2,031	1,606
Otter	1,041	1,112	931	803	1,103	943

## Beaver

This was the third year in a row that the Department has extended the beaver trapping season into April in various WMDs. The beaver harvest has increased the last 4 years and has paralleled an increase in beaver pelt prices (Tables 2 and 3). It is doubtful that much of the increase in the beaver harvest can be attributed to extending the season into spring. Rather the mild weather last year extended the open water trapping season, which may have increased the beaver harvest in some areas. Compared to the 2001-2002 harvest, which was before Maine had a spring beaver season and when pelt prices were similar, the 2005-2006 beaver harvest was not appreciably different. For the 2005-2006 season, only 5% of the total beaver harvest was taken in April.

## Bobcat

Mild winters and an abundant snowshoe hare population have kept bobcat numbers high. The high bobcat population has allowed MDIFW to extend the hunting season into February for the past three years. Harvest rates during these three years have remained strong (Table 2). Most bobcat trapped in Maine are trapped incidentally to fox and coyote. The incidental rate at which bobcat are trapped has remained high and essentially unchanged since the 2002-2003 season.

## Coyote

The number of coyotes tagged has declined for 4 years in a row (Table 2). The decline in the coyote harvest may be due the suspension of the coyote snaring season (third year) and/or high gasoline prices. The number of land trappers (trappers that caught at least one marten, fisher, fox, coyote, or bobcat) has declined the last 5 years in Maine and appears to be related to gasoline prices. In addition, trappers reportedly were reluctant to run long trap lines for coyotes and other furbearers because of the sharp increase in gas prices this year.

## Fisher

The 2005-2006 trapping season marked the fifth season in a row that Maine's fisher harvest has declined. In addition, fisher trapping success (measured as the number of fisher caught per fisher trapper) has declined over the same period. According to Maine's fisher management system, a significant decline in fisher trapping success and harvest over a 5-year period warrants management action. We will be discussing with Maine trappers a proposal to annually limit Maine's fisher harvest.

The reason for the decline in the fisher harvest and trapping success is not certain. While increasing gasoline prices may explain lower harvest rates, it may not explain the drop in trapping success. We can look at other species to determine how high gasoline prices may have affected their harvest and trapping success rates. While marten harvest rates were low this year, trapping success has not declined. Similarly, bobcat trapping success actually increased over the last 5 years. If high gas prices did not affect trapping success for these species, they likely do not explain the drop in fisher trapping success. We must consider the prospect that declining trapping success may be due to a declining fisher population. Looking at our neighbors, New Brunswick experienced a decline in their fisher harvest 4 years in a row with a 31% decline in the harvest occurring from the 2004 season to the 2005 season. New Hampshire reported 27% a decline in their fisher harvest this year and saw a drop in the number of fisher caught per unit of effort. They are reducing their annual bag limit from 15 fisher to 5. Regionally, the evidence is pretty strong that the fisher population is declining.

In southern Maine, we may have a better idea of what is causing the decline in the fisher harvest. Fisher are relatively easy to catch and there is a limited amount of land to trap on. This combination likely has led to over-trapping of fisher in areas open to trapping. Fisher are still commonly seen in southern Maine, but they may be more prevalent in areas near residential housing where trapping is not permitted or in areas posted as off-limits to trapping. We are not sure why fisher harvest and trapping success rates are lower in northern Maine.

### Red and Grey Fox

The 2005-2006 red fox harvest of 1,067 was the lowest harvest on record for Maine (Table 2). Pelt prices for fox remain on the low side (Table 3), and we suspect that a lack of trapper effort was the reason for the low harvest. We have little other information to work with at this time. The grey fox harvest was also down considerably in 2005-2006 from previous years (Table 2).

Table 3. Average pelt price offered by Maine fur dealers over the last 6 trapping seasons. Prices over \$5 / pelt are rounded to the nearest dollar. Prices followed by an *h* superscript were significantly higher than the average pelt price the previous 5 years for that species. Prices followed by an *L* superscript were significantly lower than the average pelt price for that species the previous 5 years.

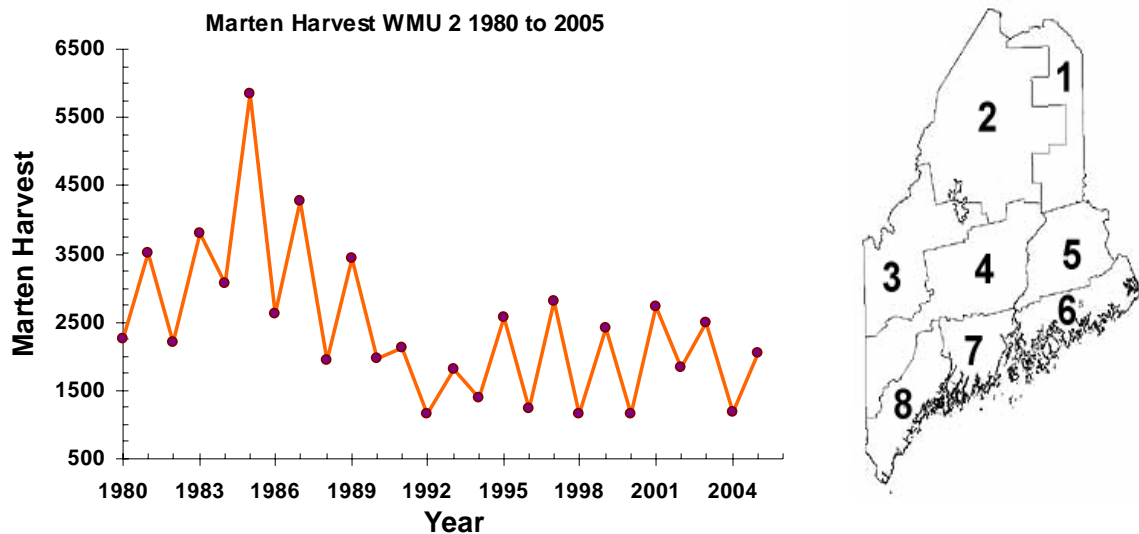
Species	05-06	04-05	03-04	02-03	01-02	00-01
BEAVER	\$18 <sup>h</sup>	\$17	\$16	\$14	\$18	\$19
COYOTE	\$17	\$16	\$21	\$20	\$13	\$14
RED FOX	\$17	\$16	\$22	\$24	\$16	\$15
FISHER (Male)	\$31 <sup>h</sup>	\$27	\$25	\$24	\$20	\$16
FISHER (Female)	\$27 <sup>h</sup>	\$21	\$21	\$23	\$19	\$16
MUSKRAT	\$2.60	\$1.69	\$2.15	\$2.64	\$2.29	\$2.27
RACCOON	\$8 <sup>L</sup>	\$9	\$10	\$9	\$9	\$8
WEASEL	\$2.21	\$1.96	\$2.00	\$1.97	\$2.43	\$2.33
BOBCAT	\$49	\$44	\$50	\$61	\$30	\$60
GREY FOX	\$17 <sup>h</sup>	\$12	\$14	\$10	\$10	\$8
PINE MARTEN	\$25 <sup>h</sup>	\$21	\$19	\$18	\$16	\$17
MINK (Male)	\$15 <sup>h</sup>	\$12	\$10	\$10	\$12	\$12
MINK (Female)	\$10 <sup>h</sup>	\$8	\$8	\$6	\$9	\$8
OTTER	\$70 <sup>h</sup>	\$68	\$65	\$51	\$41	\$49
SKUNK	\$3.50 <sup>h</sup>	\$2.79	\$2.54	\$2.33	\$3.50	\$2.67

## Marten

The 2005 marten harvest was the lowest odd-year harvest of marten Maine has had since the annual limit of 25 marten per trapper was first imposed in 1991. Marten harvest rates are tracked on an even- and odd-year basis because marten harvest rates regularly fluctuate from year to year (Fig 1). During even-years, the marten harvest is usually  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the harvest of odd-numbered years. Annual fluctuations in the marten harvest in Maine have been occurring since the mid-1800s. For over 20 years, beechnut crops in Maine and other northeastern jurisdictions also fluctuated annually. Heavy beechnut production occurred on even-numbered years and light production occurred on odd-numbered years. The large amount of food (e.g., small mammals) available to marten when beechnuts were abundant appeared to make them less inclined towards risky behavior -- like entering a trap looking for more food. Hence, the number of marten trapped on even-years declined and the decline was attributed to the level of beechnut production. However, it now appears that there may not be a cause and effect relationship between beechnut production and marten harvest levels. Fall 2005 marked the fourth year in a row that a good beechnut crop was not produced in Maine, yet the marten harvest continued in basically the same pattern.

The low harvest rate for marten in 2005 was not accompanied by a drop in marten trapping success. Marten trapping success during odd-years has remained constant over the last 10-year period. The low harvest rate may be due to the 18% decline in marten trappers (trappers that caught at least one marten) between the 2003 and 2005 seasons.

Figure 1. Marten harvest rates in former Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 2 in northern Maine from 1980 to present. An annual harvest restriction of 25 marten per trapper was imposed in 1991.



## **Mink**

The mink harvest has remained fairly constant the last 4 years (Table 2). Pelt prices for mink this year were slightly above their 5-year average, but did not seem to generate more trapping effort for the species (Table 3).

## **Otter**

Maine's otter harvest has remained fairly constant the past 3 years despite higher prices for otter pelts (Tables 2 and 3). On a statewide basis, the number of otter being trapped are below the harvest limit set in our management system. There is a fair amount of debate among trappers whether otter are being locally over harvested. While some trappers claim over harvesting is occurring, other trappers contend the complaint of over harvesting is being raised to limit the number of non-local trappers. In particular, trappers are concerned that too many trappers are targeting otter after the otter season has closed. In Maine, trappers can keep otters that are incidentally caught while trapping for beaver. A closer look at the otter harvest indicated very few trappers were taking large numbers of otter after the otter season had closed. In 2006, only 16% of the otter were harvested post-season.

## **TRAPPING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

The Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Landowner Relations Program is aggressively working towards enhancing the relationship between landowners and land users. With approximately 94% of the land in Maine in private ownership, everyone must respect all landowners and their rights as landowners. All landowner wishes have to be followed by all outdoor recreational participants to help ensure access and use of private property in the years to come.

Trappers are expected to abide by a higher standard of landowner permission than any of the other outdoor recreational participants. This standard is a law that requires written permission from the landowner before going on someone else's land to set traps, except for beaver.

Trappers as a whole have done a great job in abiding by this requirement. The end result has been a better understanding of trapping by the landowners and the public in general. Contacting the landowners for permission does put an extra burden on the trapper. However, the one-on-one communication between the trapper and landowner plays a vital role in improving landowner relations -- not only for trappers -- but for all outdoor recreational participants.

Although you are not required to get written permission before trapping beaver on land you do not own, you are not allowed to go on another person's land to trap beaver if the landowner has asked you not to go there, either verbally or by posted notice.

We receive several complaints each year where trappers have set up on a beaver colony that the landowner does not want removed. Please make every effort to avoid this type of conflict. You can do that by communicating with landowners prior to the opening of the trapping season as to what their wishes or concerns may be.

The law covering abuse of another's property contains several prohibited acts, but the one most likely to be encountered by a trapper is the cutting of trees or branches on the land of another. Cutting is not allowed without landowner permission.

We would like to thank all trappers for the excellent efforts they have displayed in helping us improve landowner relations. What you do does make a difference.

## **AVOIDING INCIDENTAL CAPTURES**

### **Bald Eagles**

Overall, the single biggest factor leading to the incidental capture of bald eagles is the use of exposed bait. This includes bait used as an attractant, and animals caught in traps, which subsequently attract eagles. Although eagles are fish eaters, they are attracted to a variety of carrion including large and small mammals. Regardless of whether you are trapping for upland or wetland furbearers, or are using foothold or conibear traps, please be aware that exposed bait or a trapped animal may attract an eagle.

- Eagles have been caught in fisher and marten sets where bait was visibly exposed. Please use an enclosure, such as a rural newspaper box, to conceal a baited conibear trap.
- If you intend to set traps near carrion, please 1) use carrion that is in the open and not under a forest canopy, and 2) set traps more than 50 yards from the dead animal and 10 yards behind the edge of any opening. These methods have previously been used in our snaring program to prevent the incidental capture of eagles.
- Eagles are vulnerable to float-sets used for muskrat trapping where more than one trap is set on the float (e.g., gang set). Given this, beginning with the 2006 –2007 beaver season, any muskrat trapping conducted after March 31 in those areas open to beaver trapping is restricted to the use of killer-type traps and colony traps, and all traps must be set so as to remain completely under water at all times.
- Baits are frequently used in pocket sets along a stream banks. If you are using a pocket set, please cover the bait so that it is not a visible attractant to eagles.
- Bald eagles are particularly attracted to sets where fish are used as bait. Please cover the bait so that it is not visible to eagles. Do not depend on water hiding the bait. Several eagles have been caught in traps baited with fish when water levels dropped leaving the fish exposed.

### **Lynx**

- To date, the incidental captures that have led to lynx fatalities have all been associated with conibear traps. When trapping in northern Maine, please set conibears in enclosures and on leaning poles that are 4 inches or less in diameter. The traps will still be accessible to marten and fisher, but lynx will be reluctant to climb the narrow poll to investigate the trap set.
- Further information on how to avoid the incidental capture of lynx and how to safely release a lynx from a trap is in the enclosed booklet -- “How to Avoid Incidental Take of Lynx”. This information is also available on our website [www.mefishwildlife.com](http://www.mefishwildlife.com).



## IF YOU CATCH A LYNX OR EAGLE

Trappers catching either of these species are required to notify the Department as soon as possible. If you accidentally trap a lynx or eagle during the trapping season, please notify a biologist or game warden immediately, before releasing the animal. **For quickest response, phone 207-941-4466 during regular office hours (8 AM - 5 PM Monday-Friday), or 207-592-4734 outside of business hours (during the trapping season only).** You may also contact the nearest regional office at one of the numbers listed in the back of this booklet. If you cannot reach IFW personnel, please release the animal as soon as possible.

Lynx and eagles are protected by federal and state laws, and must be released if incidentally trapped. **Department personnel are available to help release lynx or eagles caught in traps.** Eagles caught in traps may require rehabilitation. If possible, a biologist should examine the eagle before they are released from a trap. If an eagle is caught in a remote location, and a biologist or warden is not available to help release the bird, trappers may remove the bird from the trap. If possible, the bird should be transported (in a box with ventilation or other suitable container) to the nearest MDIFW regional office. For information regarding how to safely release a lynx from a trap, please refer to the brochure: How to Avoid Incidental Take of Lynx.

**If you incidentally capture a lynx that has an eartag or radiocollar**, and you are unable to reach MDIFW personnel for assistance in releasing the lynx, please contact Jennifer Vashon at 207-941-4466 at your earliest convenience to provide information regarding the animal. If you incidentally capture a lynx that is not marked with an eartag or radiocollar, this animal could provide valuable information. **We would like to mark all incidentally captured lynx with eartags, and radiocollar them, if possible.** If you would like more information on lynx in Maine, please contact Wally Jakubas or Jennifer Vashon at 941-4466.

## OTHER MATTERS OF ATTENTION

### Nuisance Beaver

A list of nuisance beaver sites **may** be available for your area. Please contact your regional wildlife office if you are interested in the location of nuisance beaver sites. Regional wildlife offices are listed at the back of this booklet.

### Transportation Permits

Please remember that a temporary marten transportation permit must be signed, dated, and attached to captured marten **at the time the animal is removed from the capture site**. Fur tagging agents are to retain the temporary transportation permit from each marten at the time the permanent fur tag is attached to the pelt.

### Pelt Tagging Requirements

**Trappers must have all their fall fur tagged 10 days after the season ends.** The Department will be collecting the fur tagging books for fall fur 20 days after the close of the season (i.e., around January 20). The Department uses fur tagging information to monitor the population trends of furbearers. If

fur remains untagged, the accuracy of our furbearer management systems is diminished. Collecting fur tagging books earlier in the year will allow sufficient time to determine furbearer population levels and to discuss these findings with trappers and regional biologists prior to formulating trapping regulations.

### **Lynx Study**

MDIFW, in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and private landowners, has been conducting a lynx study in northwestern Maine. This study was undertaken in response to lynx being listed as a threatened species by the USFWS. Prior to this study, there was very little information available on the biology or behavior of lynx in the Northeastern U.S. This study will help ensure that regulations and management plans, formulated to protect lynx in Maine, are based on sound information from this region. We are studying lynx by radiocollaring individuals and monitoring their movements, behavior, and habitat use. Our field crew is based at Clayton Lake.

### **Collared and Ear-tagged Animals**

In addition to lynx, the Department's lynx study has involved collaring and/or ear-tagging coyotes, bobcat, fisher, and fox. If you catch a collared or ear-tagged animal in one of your traps, that is NOT a lynx, you may take the animal for fur. However, you will need to return the collar and tags, and we would appreciate knowing where you caught the animal. Please call the nearest regional MDIFW office to report the location of the catch to a wildlife biologist and arrange to return the radiocollar and tags. If you catch a collared cat and are uncertain whether it is a bobcat or a lynx, please contact a regional wildlife biologist, warden, or biologists at the Bangor office before killing the animal. Remember any lynx caught in a trap must be released.

## **RARE MAMMALS TO WATCH FOR**

### **Lynx vs. Bobcat Know the Difference**

The most notable difference between a lynx and a bobcat is paw size. Lynx paws are about twice the size of bobcat paws. Lynx can also be distinguished from bobcats by the tip of their tail, which is completely black (bobcat tail tips are black on the upper side [dorsal side] and white underneath). Lynx have more prominent ear tufts, paler coloration, less spotting, and longer legs than a bobcat (Table 4, Figure 3).

If you trap a bobcat that looks like a cross between a lynx and a bobcat, we would like to know about it. We have recovered several lynx-bobcat hybrids in north central Maine and are interesting in documenting other specimens. Remember if you are uncertain whether an animal is a lynx or bobcat please call a biologist or warden before dispatching the animal. If you have already dispatched the animal, and think it has unusual characteristics for a bobcat, we are still interested in seeing it.

## Wolves

Since 1993, two wolves have appeared in Maine, renewing debate over whether wolves are immigrating to Maine from Quebec or are being illegally released. The first animal was a female wolf, black in color and weighing 67 pounds. This wolf was shot near Russell Pond north of Moosehead Lake in 1993. Its behavior was suspicious for a wild animal, as it lurked near campgrounds and used bear bait for several days prior to being shot by a bear hunter. Captive wolves or wolf-dog hybrids are most easily distinguished from wild wolves by their behavior. Released captives are not efficient hunters, and often remain near human dwellings for handouts. The second animal was a male, which was trapped in T28 MD, in Hancock County, in 1996. It was grizzled gray-black on its back with tan flanks and weighed 81.5 pounds. Recent genetic analyses confirmed that this was a wolf that had hybridized with a coyote. Eastern Canadian wolves typically have hybridized with coyotes, which may make distinguishing them from a coyote difficult. **Please use care in identifying any large canids you encounter. If you suspect you have a canine in a trap that is over 4.5 ft. in length (from tip of tale to nose) it may be a wolf. Please contact your regional biologist before dispatching the animal.** Maine's wildlife laws prohibit harassment or killing of any species of wildlife, including wolves, unless an open hunting or trapping season exists. It is also illegal to release wildlife into the wild, and a permit is required to hold wolves in captivity.

The Department continues to work with outside organizations, like the National Wildlife Federation, to follow up on any wolf sightings. To date, no other wolves have been confirmed as occurring in Maine. If you see tracks, hear howling, or find other sign that indicates that a wolf is nearby, please contact our Department and let us know. Wolves of the Laurentides Reserve of Quebec (the nearest established wolf population to Maine) range from 55 - 105 pounds. Wolves have proportionately longer legs, frame, and larger feet than coyotes. Compared to coyote tracks, wolf tracks are larger and rounder (Table 1, Figure 1). Wolf coloration ranges from black to very light beige. Many wolves are tan with grizzled black and gray - similar to Maine's coyotes.

# TRACK AND TRACK PATTERNS FOR COUGAR, LYNX, AND WOLF; WITH COMPARISONS TO MORE COMMON SPECIES

**Table 4. Distinguishing track characteristics**

Species	General Shape	Walking Stride	Print Size (Front Foot)	Track Pattern
Bobcat	General round appearance. Heel points in slightly different direction than toes. No nail marks, but if present, attached to toe marks.	6" to 14"	Length - 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ " to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Width - 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ " to 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	Direct or double register walking pattern. Trail pattern zigzags right-left-right-left.
Lynx	Same as bobcat but tracks show a lot more hair. Smaller pads than a mountain lion.	11" to 18"	Length - 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " Width - 3" to 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " Outline of hair impression Length - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ " Width - 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Same as bobcat
Cougar	Same as bobcat	20" to 32"	Length - 3" to 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Width - 3 $\frac{1}{8}$ " to 3 $\frac{9}{16}$ "	Walking pattern similar to other cats. Deep snow may show belly and tail drag marks.
Coyote	4 toes, oval shaped track, Front nails often close together. Side nails often do not register.	<b>Eastern:</b> 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 26"	<b>Eastern:</b> Length - 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ " to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Width - 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ " - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Trail pattern usually is in a straight line. Walking pattern is usually direct registering
Dog	Similar to wolves and coyotes. Inner toes often splayed outwards.	Varies with breed	Varies with breed	Trail pattern sloppy, wandering, not usually in a straight line. Walking pattern is often double register.
Wolf	4 toes, symmetrical track, longer than wide, more rounded than a coyote, nail marks not attached to toe mark (same as coyote), 4 nails register.	<b>Algonquin:</b> 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ " □	<b>Algonquin:</b> Length - 4" - 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " Width - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " - 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " <b>Other:</b> Length - 3 $\frac{7}{8}$ " - 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Width - 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ " - 5"	Trail pattern usually is in a straight line. Walking pattern is usually direct registering.

## Terminology:

**Direct register** - a walking pattern where the animal's forefoot is overprinted by the hind foot.



**Double or Indirect register** - a walking pattern where the animal's hind foot does not fall directly on the front track.

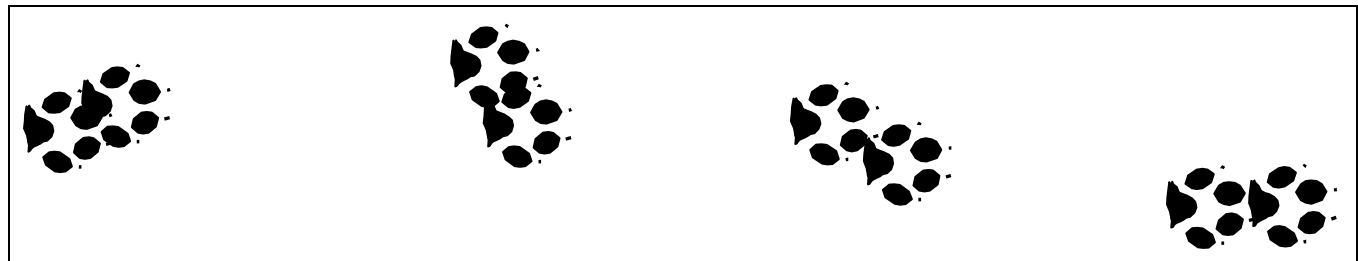
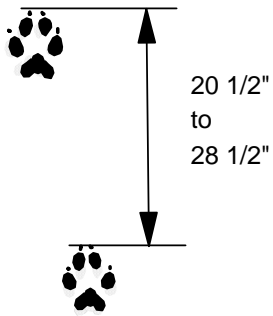
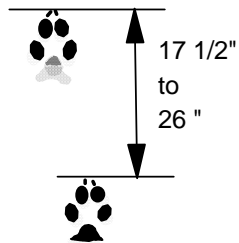


Figure 2. Comparison of wolf, coyote, and dog tracks. Illustrations follow those in Rezendes (1992).

### Wolf Track Pattern



### Coyote Track Pattern



### Dog Track Pattern



#### Note for Coyotes and Wolves

If you have an animal in hand and wish to determine whether it is a coyote or wolf, measure its total length (Tip of nose to tip of tail). An animal over 4 ft. in length may be a wolf.

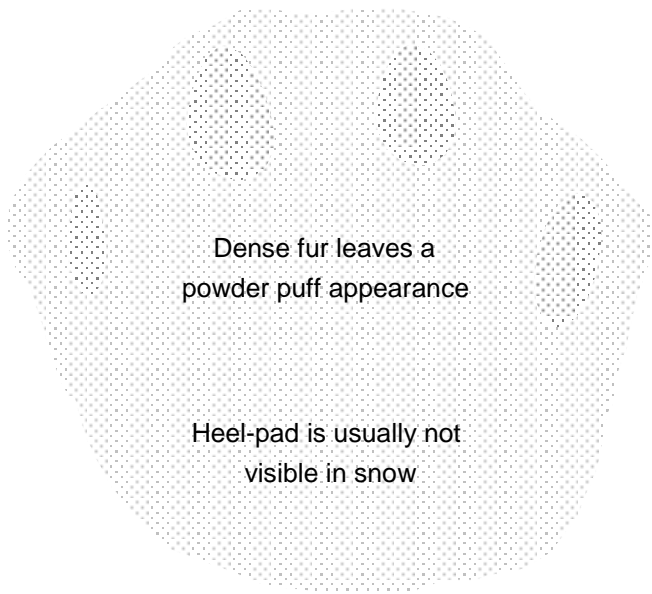
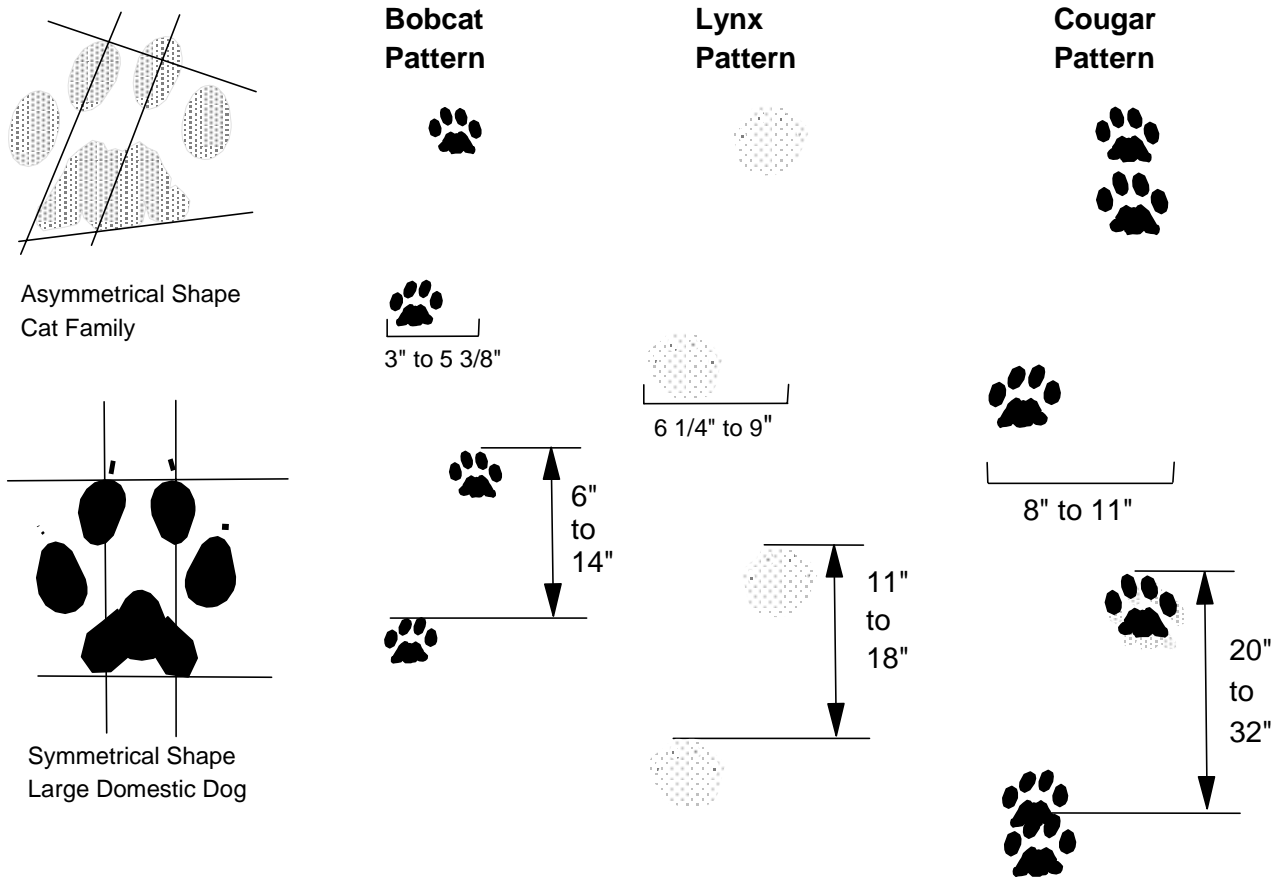


WOLF PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE



COYOTE PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE

Figure 3. Typical shape of canine and cat tracks, and a comparison of bobcat, lynx, and cougar tracks. Illustrations follow those in Rezendes (1992) and Elbroch (2003).



LYNX PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE



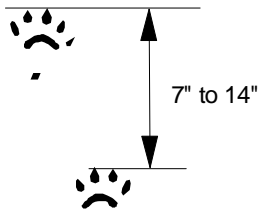
COUGAR PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE

Figure 4. Fisher tracks. Illustrations follow those in Rezendes (1992).

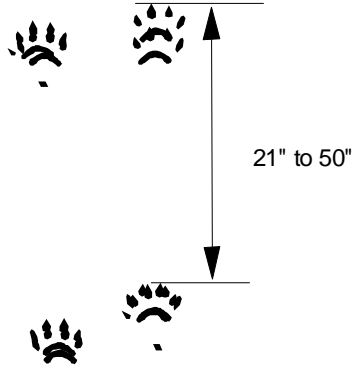
**Fisher Track  
Pattern (Walking)**



3" to 5 1/2"



**Fisher Track  
Pattern (Running)  
Common 2x2 Pattern**



**FISHER PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE (MALE)**

**Print Size (Front Foot)**

Note: Prints from males and females may differ considerably in size.

Length - 2 1/8" to 3 7/8"

Width - 2 1/8" to 3 1/4"

**Other**

Fifth toe and heel pad often do not show. Total length with heel pad may be longer than above measurements. Tracks in snow are often indistinct, and somewhat pear shaped.

**LITERATURE CITED**

- Rezendes, P. 1992. Tracking the art of seeing: how to read animal tracks and sign. Camden House, Charlotte, VT.
- Elbroch, M. 2003. Mammal tracks and sign: a guide to North American species. Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA.

Prepared by Wally Jakubas, MDIFW, 650 State Street, Bangor, ME 04401

## 2006-2007 Beaver Trapping Season & Closures

WMD's	Season Dates
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 .....	November 1 - April 30
7, 8, 13, 14, 17 .....	December 1 - March 31
9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 28 .....	November 1 - April 15
12, 15, 16, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29 .....	December 1 - February 28
20, 21, 22, 24 .....	December 15 - February 28

### Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 1 (Open November 1 - April 30)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Allagash**, except Little Falls Pond and outlet.

**Allagash**, except Fall Brook Lake.

**T18 R10 WELS**, except Connors Pond and Connors Brook.

**T18 R10 WELS**, except Hafey Pond.

### Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 2 (Open November 1 - April 30)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with no part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)



The following town shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town open:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**T13 R10 WELS**, except Sag Pond and tributaries.

**T14 R8 WELS**, except Moccasin Pond and tributaries.

**T14 R9 WELS**, except North Pond and tributaries.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 3 (Open November 1 - April 30)**

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 4 (Open November 1 - April 30)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**T8 R16 WELS**, except Desolation Pond.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 5 (Open November 1 - April 30)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with no part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following town shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

**Trout Brook Twp.**, except north of Trout Brook.

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Ashland**, except unnamed brook on land owned by Artemus and Rosemary Coffin located north of Goding Road and west of Rt. #11.

**Moro Plt.**, except Bradford Pond and Bradford Brook northwest of Rt. 11.

**Moro Plt.,** except Green Pond.

**T8 R9 WELS,** except Brown Pond.

**T8 R11 WELS,** except Bluffer Pond.

**T9 R9 WELS,** except Brown Brook Pond.

**T10 R11 WELS,** except Upper Deadwater Pond.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 6 (Open November 1 - April 30)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Ashland,** except section of Nowland Brook on land owned by Ronald Rushinal adjacent to the Nowland Road.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 7 (Open December 1 - March 31)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town open:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**C Surplus Twp.,** except C Pond and the Dead Cambridge River from C Pond to Umbagog Lake.

**Coplin Plt.,** except for an unnamed wetland locally known as Arnold's Bog in Hedgehog Village.

**Phillips,** except for Adley Pond.

**Phillips,** except for an unnamed stream and wetland on the property of Laura Appell, which lies between the Golden Road and that portion of Route 142, which is south of Route 4.

**Phillips**, except for an unnamed wetland on the property of George and Laura Appell, which is located at the end of Dill Rd. and is associated with the south branch of Cottle Brook.

**Twp. 6 North of Weld**, except Mud Pond and outlet.

**Upton**, except C Pond and the Dead Cambridge River from C Pond to Umbagog Lake.

**Upton**, except for that section of B Brook from the confluence with B Pond, downstream to the first road crossing.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 8 (Open December 1 - March 31)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Blake Gore**, except Capehorn Pond.

**Carrying Place Town Twp. (T2 R3 BKP WKR)**, except Black Brook Pond, flowage, and outlet downstream to the first gravel road.

**Forsythe Twp.**, except Turner Pond.

**Holeb Twp.**, except Fish Pond and tributaries.

**Johnson Mountain Twp.**, except Markham and outlet to Rt. 201.

**Parlin Pond Twp.**, except Parlin Brook.

**Pierce Pond Twp.**, except Black Brook Pond, flowage, and outlet downstream to the first gravel road.

**Prentiss Twp.**, except Capehorn Pond.

**Tomhegan Game Sanctuary, the Pittston Farm Game Sanctuary, the Moosehead Lake Game Sanctuary and Somerset Game Sanctuary shall all be open.**

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 9 (Open November 1 - April 15)**

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 10 (Open November 1 - April 15)**

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 11 (Open November 1 - April 15)**

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 12 (Open December 1 – February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

**Batchelders Grant**

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Albany Twp.**, except Kneeland Pond.

**Gilead**, except Carlton Brook.

**Hartford**, except for the part of the west tributary to Little Bear Pond that runs through the property owned by Sylvia Mahoney. The closed beaver flowage is located on the northeast side of the Mahoney Road.

**Twp. 6 North of Weld**, except Mud Pond and outlet.

**Upton**, except for that section of B Brook from the confluence with B Pond, downstream to the first road crossing.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 13 (Open December 1 – March 31)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 14 (Open December 1 – March 31)**

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 15 (Open December 1 – February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Cornish**, except tributaries to Brown Brook upstream from the Watson Hill Road, Leavitt Brook, and Haley Pond and tributaries and Little River east of Rt. 5.

**Denmark**, except Moose Pond Brook and tributaries.

**Harrison**, except Thomes Brook.

**Otisfield**, except Coon Road Swamp and Moose Pond.

**Parsonfield**, except Noah's Pond and tributaries, and tributary to Chellis Brook upstream from the South Road.

**Porter**, except Thurston Brook and tributaries, and Bickford Pond and tributaries.

**Sweden**, except Plummer Brook downstream from Berry Pond.

**Waterford**, except that portion of Kedar Brook upstream of Rt. 37.

**West Paris**, except Darnit Brook tributaries east of Woody Brook Road.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 16 (Open December 1 – February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Auburn**, except Sopers Mills Brook upstream of Sopers Mill Road and tributaries of the Androscoggin River upstream of the East Waterman Road.

**Mercer**, except the land of David P. Van Burgel and Kathy J. Scott, which is located between the Hampshire Hill Road and the Rome Road, and includes a portion of Hilton Brook.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 17            (Open December 1 – March 31)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Bradford**, except the land of Justlin Bidol.

**Charleston**, except for the land of R. Christopher Almy.

**Hartland**, except tributaries to Thompson Brook west and north of Rt. 23 that are on the property owned by John Studt.

**Hermon**, except for land of Herbert Bates bordered on the north by the Fuller Road, on the east by the New Boston Road, on the south by Rt. 2/100, and to the west by the Billings Road.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 18            (Open November 1 - April 15)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Eddington**, except Merrill Road Brook which crosses the Merrill Road in East Eddington.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 19 (Open November 1 - April 15)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Baileyville**, except flowage east of and behind Goding Cement plant (so-called Eastern Olsen Marsh).

**Princeton**, except Slime Meadow Brook.

**T3 ND**, except Duck Lake Brook.

**T4 ND**, except Duck Lake Brook.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 20 (Open December 15 - February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Lebanon**, except Great Brook and tributaries west of Upper Guinea Road, Bog Brook northwest of Heath Road, Prescott Brook, and Little River and tributaries west of the Will Goding Road.

**Lyman**, except tributaries of Hamilton Branch of Shaker Brook east of Route 202.

**Parsonfield**, except Chellis Brook and tributaries.

**Shapleigh**, except Davis Brook down stream of the Mann Road.

**Waterboro**, except tributaries to Hamilton Branch of Shaker Brook east of Route 202.

**Wells**, except Webhannet River and Crediford Brook.

**York**, except Dolly Gordon Brook and tributaries.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 21                      (Open December 15 - February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Auburn**, except Sopers Mills Brook upstream of Sopers Mill Road.

**Baldwin**, except Quaker Brook and tributaries.

**Freeport**, except Kelsey Brook.

**Gray**, except Allen Bog and tributaries.

**New Gloucester**, except tributaries to Chandler River, downstream from the Chadsey Road.

**Pownal**, except tributary to Chandler River, between Allen Road and Chadsey Road.

**Raymond**, except Sucker Brook and tributaries.

**Standish**, except Josies Brook between Dow Road and Saco Road.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 22                      (Open December 15 - February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

**Perkins Twp.                      (Swan Island)**

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Pittston**, except for the property owned by Judith Schuppien and Philip Brzozowski located on the west side of the Eastern River and south of the Caston Road.

**Woolwich**, except for the area encompassed by Walker Road to the south, the Mountain Road to the east, and the Old Stage Road to the north and west.



**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 23 (Open December 1 – February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**China**, except the property of H.C. Dillenbeck very large flowage located on Clark Brook. Town map 32 Lots 37 and 38.

**Etna**, except for the wetland located east of the Rt. 143, south of I-95, west of the Etna/Carmel town line, and north of the South Etna Road.

**Jackson**, all flowages south of the Jackson / Dixmont / Troy town line, west of Route 7, north of Jackson Corner, east of Common Hill.

**Montville**, except the parcel of land owned by the Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance located north of the Burnham Hill Road, west of the Howard Road, south of the Penny Road, and east of the Halldale Road.

**Montville**, except land owned by the Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance located north of the Burnham Hill Road between Herb Jackson Road and the Mountain Road.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 24 (Open December 15 - February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Wells**, except Webhannet River and Crediford Brook.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 25 (Open December 1 – February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Boothbay**, except Meadow Pond located southeast of the Back Narrows Road and north of Route 96.

**Bristol**, except an unnamed tributary to the Pemaquid River that passes through the land owned by Thomas Schmidt, north of the Rock Schoolhouse Road. (Fire Road. B 31-1).

**Bristol**, except Johnson's Meadow on Trout Brook, so called, to the Chamberlain Post Office.

**Edgecomb**, except the area south of Lawrence Road (formerly Mill Road.), east of Parson's Creek, and west of Parson's Point Road and Rt. 27.

**Edgecomb**, except the wetland known as Hourglass Pond located east of Rt. 26, north of the Middle Road, south of the Town Hall Road, and west of the CMP powerline right-of-way, property of Betty Twarog.

**Edgecomb**, except the Charles & Constance Schmid Land Preserve, a private land preserve that encompasses 766 acres located off of the Middle Road, Old County Road and Mount Hunger Road East, and Mount Hunger Road North.

**Jefferson - Note: The part of the Jefferson - Whitefield Sanctuary that lies in the town of Jefferson shall be open to beaver trapping.**

**South Thomaston**, except the land of C. M. Waterman, so called Towers Brook, west and north of Route 73, and south of the Grierson Road.

**Whitefield**, except the land owned by Paul and Mary Fournier located north of the Jewett Road in the Jefferson-Whitefield Sanctuary.

**Whitefield**, except the land owned by Lisa Tuttle, including the beaver flowage located along the west side of Weary Pond Road, just inside the boundary of the Jefferson-Whitefield Sanctuary.

**Note: Land in the Jefferson-Whitefield Sanctuary that is in the town of Whitefield will be open to beaver trapping except for the area described above.**

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 26                      (Open December 1 – February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Holden**, except all tributaries to Davis Pond in the area bounded by the Bagaduce or Rooks Road, and the eastern extension of the Levenseller Road terminating at the boat launch site.

**Orrington**, except the area south of Center Drive, west of King's Mountain road, north of Harriman Woods road, and east of Dow Road.

**Searsport**, except area enclosed by the Mt. Ephraim Road, the Old County Road, Prospect St., and Route 1/3.

**Searsport**, except for the flowage on the property of Richard and Joyce Stevens located south and east of the junction of the Mt. Ephraim road and the Nickels Road.

**Stonington**, except Ames Pond.

**Swanville**, except for the flowage located on the northwest corner of Swan Lake on the property owned by Alfred Miliano.

**Swanville**, except Hurd's Pond Wildlife Management Area.

#### **Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 27                      (Open December 1 – February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Addison**, except the area east of Pleasant River, south of tributary to Long Cove, west of South Addison Road, and north of the Split Road.

**Corea**, except Beaver Lily Pond and outlet to ocean.

**Dedham**, except Coon Bog and brook, Mud Pond and outlet, Second Pond and outlet, Rowe Brook, and Mill Stream from M.C.R.R. Trestle to Phillips Lake.

**Ellsworth**, except the area east of Branch Lake, south of Winkumpaugh Road, west of Rt. 1A from Wilson's Corner to Hurd's Corner, and north of Branch Pond Road; and the area north of Green lake outlet, east of Rt. 180, and west of Graham Lake.

**Jonesport**, except the pond created by Popplestone Beach and its inlet brook.

**Lamoine**, except Partridge Cove Brook.

**Orland**, except Moosehorn Stream and tributaries, Atkinson Brook and tributaries, Gold Brook and tributaries, Hot Hole Stream and tributaries, and Hot Hole Pond and tributaries (Dead River is **open**).

**Roque Bluffs**, except the area east of Englishman's River.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 28 (Open November 1 - April 15)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Alexander**, except Barrows Lake, tributaries, and outlet.

**Crawford**, except Barrows Stream from Alexander town line south to first mapped tributary.

**T9 SD**, except Otter bog and the inlet and tributaries south of Rt. 182, and the outlet from the bog to where it flows into Donnels Pond.

**Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 29 (Open December 1 – February 28)**

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

**Calais**, except Nash's Lake and its outlets.

**Edmunds**, except Crane Mill Brook.

**Frenchboro**, except Long Island.

**Machiasport**, except Randall Point Pond.

**Trescott Twp.**, except Lily Lake and outlet south of Crow Neck Road.

## BEAVER/MUSKRAT TRAPPING POLICY

1. Beaver Dam - Beginning with the 2006 –2007 beaver season, the Department, for enforcement purposes, has modified its definition of a “beaver dam,” such that the term does not include the remains of an inactive or breached beaver dam that is in disrepair and is no longer being maintained by beaver. This provides a standard definition of what is considered a beaver dam for law enforcement purposes.
2. Tributary - means a brook, stream or river flowing directly or indirectly into a lake, pond or another brook, stream or river. A lake or great pond shall not be construed to mean tributary. The tributary to a great pond shall not be considered a tributary to the outlet of that great pond.
3. Setback Distance - Setback distance requirements specified in existing regulation shall apply to the trapping of all species at all times. You are required to set your traps at least 4 feet away from another person’s beaver traps; however, as a matter of common courtesy you should always set your traps a reasonable distance away from any trap which has been set by someone else.
4. Beaver House - The term beaver house shall be interpreted to include any cavity in the bank which is capped by beaver with mud and sticks. The above definition addresses the question of whether or not a bank den is considered to be a beaver house, as well as the question of what is considered to be a bank den. Holes in the bank not capped with mud and sticks shall not be considered beaver houses.
5. Muskrat Den - A muskrat den is any cavity, which is capped by muskrats with vegetative matter including but not limited to hollow stumps and bank cavities. Holes in the bank not capped with vegetative matter shall not be considered muskrat dens.
6. Distance Measurements - For dams, dens, and houses, all measurements should be made from the trap itself. Sticks and poles used to construct the set are not considered part of the trap. The setback distance shall be measured as follows:

House - Measured from where the nearest edge of the house meets water or ice. In the case of capped cavity on the bank, distance will be measured from where the nearest intersection edge of the cap meets the ground, water, or ice.

Dens - Measured from the nearest opening.

Dams - Beaver dams should be measured from the where the nearest edge of the dam meets ground, water, or ice.

You are not allowed to set a trap within 10 feet of a muskrat house, muskrat den, or beaver house, and you are not allowed to set a trap within 5 feet of a beaver dam.

7. Advanced Preparation on "Trapping Grounds" - There shall be no installation or placement of trapping implements, associated materials, or supplies or preparation of the site IN the water or ON the ice including the associated flowage, marsh, bog, brook, stream, river, pond, or lake prior to the beginning of the trapping season on beaver and muskrat. For species other than muskrat or beaver, you are allowed to go out before the season and prepare the area you want to trap. However, you are never allowed to fasten a trap (set or unset) at any trap site location before opening day.

8. Nuisance Beaver Removal - Every effort shall be made to minimize the out-of-season removal of nuisance beaver by agents of the Commissioner. This shall be accomplished by: (1) maintaining in-season trapping opportunity in problem areas, and (2) restricting the removal of nuisance beaver by agents of the Commissioner prior to the beaver trapping season. Except in emergency situations, no nuisance beaver will be removed within 30 days of the opening day of the beaver trapping season in that area. A list of locations where beaver have been removed within 30 days of the opening of the beaver trapping season will be maintained at regional offices. The above provisions will maintain a greater level of beaver trapping opportunity.
  
9. "Drowning Set" – A drowning set is a trap that is set completely underwater and rigged in such a way as to reasonably ensure the drowning of any species of trapped furbearer that would reasonably be expected to visit the set location and be held in the type of trap used at the set. (**Note:** You are allowed to trap in shallow water where a trapped animal is **not** likely to drown, but traps set in this manner are not considered to be drowning sets and are **not** allowed within ½ mile of the built up section of a city or town.)
  
10. Trap Tending Laws - The trap tending laws are as follows:
 

All traps set in organized towns must be tended daily, except killer-type traps and under-ice water sets for muskrat and beaver. Each killer-type trap, except under-ice water sets, must be visited at least once every 3 calendar days.

All traps set in unorganized towns must be tended daily, except for killer-type traps and drowning sets. Killer-type traps or drowning sets in unorganized towns must be tended at least once in every five calendar days.
  
11. Under ice water sets - For enforcement and information purposes, all water sets for beaver and muskrat during December, January, February and March will be considered "under ice water sets" as far as trap tending requirements are concerned.

Note: It is legal to use snares set completely under water for beaver during the open season on beaver.

## 2006-2007 FUR TAGGING STATIONS

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Athens	William Thompson PO Box 55, Athens, ME 04912	431-3158
Atkinson	Snow's Ag Grocery 101 South Stagecoach Road, Atkinson, ME 04426	564-7763
Bangor	Jim Fahey PO Box 565, Bangor, ME 04402	942-0139
Baileyville	Jim Martin RR1 box 2282, Baileyville, ME 04694	557-0823
Belgrade	Kerry Oliver, Day's Store Rt. 27, PO Box 277, Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918	495-2205
Bridgton	Doug Taft 31 Malcolm Road, Bridgton, ME 04009	
Brownville	Guy Green Rt. 11, 62 Main Road, Brownville, ME 04414	965-8369
Byron	Judith Boucher, Coos Canyon Campground 445 Swift River Road, Byron, ME 04275	364-3880
Cape Elizabeth	Mary Gallagher, Yankee Trapper Bait and Lure 200 Fowler Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107	799-6858
Caribou	Myron Hale, County Sports, Inc. 387 Sweden St., Caribou, ME 04736	492-6072
Durham	Walter Brooks 20 Stieg Road, Durham, ME 04222	353-9962
Eagle Lake	Chad Abbott 2681 Aroostook Road, Eagle Lake, ME 04739	557-0394
Eagle Lake	David Parent, Bald Eagle Store Inc. PO Box 219, Eagle Lake, ME 04739	444-5115
East Holden	Douglas Sinclair, Sinclair's Log Cabin General Main Road, Box 279, East Holden, ME 04429	843-5895
East Millinocket	East Millinocket Fire Department 125 Main Street, Public Safety Bldg., E. Millinocket, ME 04462	746-3555
Gouldsboro	Dave Simmons 199 South Gouldsboro Road, Gouldsboro, ME 04607	557-0886
Guilford	Ed Desmond, Desmond's Variety 84 Elm Street, Guilford, ME 04443	876-4486
Hampden	Ronald McKinnon, MCK's Variety RFD 2 Box 1437, Hampden, ME 04444	862-3196
Hanover	Christopher Howe, Gordie Howe's Inc. 2082 Main Street, Hanover, ME 04237	369-9300
Houlton	Matthew & Rebecca Cox, MACS Trading Post 382 North Road, Houlton, ME 04730	532-9700

**2006-2007 FUR TAGGING STATIONS – continued**

Jackman	Raymond Levesque, Bishop's Store Inc. 464 Main Street, Jackman, ME 04945	668-3411
Jackman	Ray Miller PO Box 631, Rt. 201, Jackman, ME 04945	
Lincoln	Michael Boyer 203 Main Street, Lincoln, ME 04457	557-2046
Litchfield	Arnold St. Claire 1313 West Road, Litchfield, ME 04350	268-3490
Montville	Corie Dimmitt, Mt. Valley Sports 141 S. Mt. Valley Hwy., Montville, ME 04941	589-3231
Newry	Douglas Webster, Bear River Trading Post 4 Bear River Road, Newry, ME 04261	824-2327
Nobleboro	Kenneth Yereance, Nobleboro Village Inc. 255 Center Street, Nobleboro, ME 04555	563-3639
Oxbow Plt.	Gloria G. Nelson 871 Oxbow Road, Oxbow Plt., ME 04764	435-6357
Palmyra	James Spraggins, Moosehead Trail Trading Post 428 Oxbow Road, Palmyra, ME 04965	368-5313
Patten	Kenneth Lau, Patten General Store Main Street, Box 479, Patten, ME 04765	528-2549
Phippsburg	Madelyn Freeman 168 Main Road, Phippsburg, ME 04562	443-5303
Portage	Glen & Pam Cusack, Coffin's General Store 2084 Portage Road, Portage, ME 04768	435-2811
Presque Isle	Benjamin LeBlanc, Ben's Trading Post 36 Chapman Road, Presque Isle, ME 04769	768-3181
Princeton	George Blaney RR1 Box 100-I, Princeton, ME 04668	796-5490
Rumford	Rumford Fire Dept. 151 Congress Street, Rumford, ME 04276	364-2901
St. Francis	Mrs. Edgar Walker 1836 Main Street, St. Francis, ME 04774	398-3144
Sanford	Normand's Hardware 28 New Dam Road, Sanford, ME 04073	324-5846
Skowhegan	Skowhegan Fire Dept. 16 Island Avenue, Skowhegan, ME 04976	474-3400
West Minot	Wayne Slattery, Village Trading Post PO Box 103, W. Minot, ME 04288	966-2631
Woolwich	Mrs. Gloria Kenney 1505 Middle Road, Woolwich, ME 04579	442-7833



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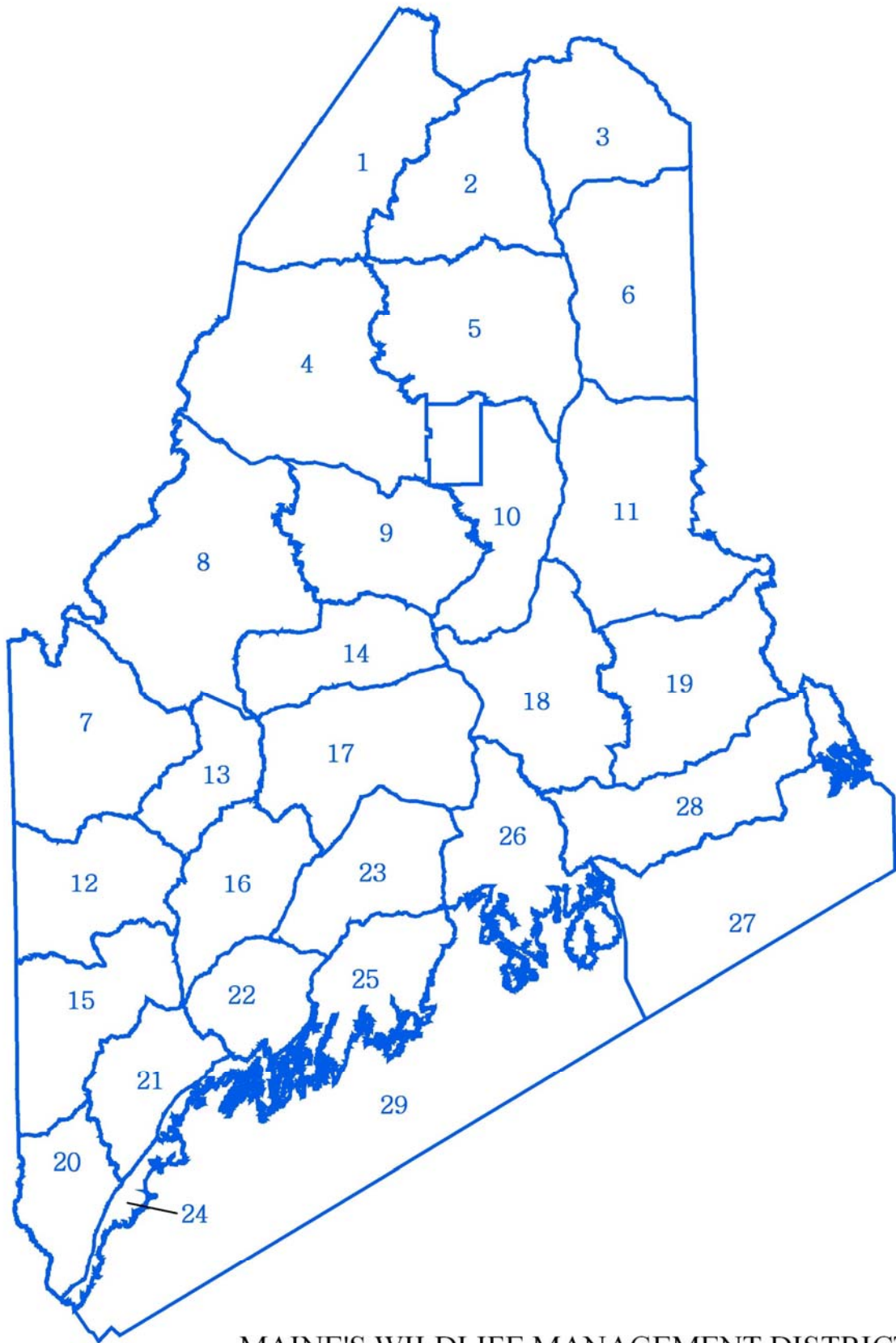


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**MDIFW's BANGOR AND REGIONAL OFFICES**


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TOWN	LOCATION	PHONE
Ashland	P.O. Box 447, Station Hill, Ashland, ME 04732	435-3231
Bangor	650 State Street, Bangor, ME 04401-5654	941-4440
Enfield	73 Cobb Road, Enfield, ME 04493	732-4132
Gray	RR1, 358 Shaker Road, Gray, ME 04039	657-2345
Greenville	P.O. Box 551 (Village Street), Greenville, ME 04441	695-3756
Jonesboro	P.O. Box 220 (Rt. 1), Jonesboro, ME 04648	434-5927
Sidney	270 Lyons Road, Sidney, ME 04330	547-5300
Strong	689 Farmington Road, Strong, ME 04983	778-3324



MAINE'S WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

May 2006